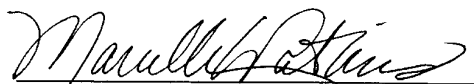


# REMARKS

The new claims are intended to replace the originally filed claims and to provide a clearer recitation of the claimed invention. Each of the above claims is supported in the specification as filed.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments or otherwise feels it would be helpful, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned at (713) 238-8043.

Respectfully submitted,



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